A.—The Government have no information but will call for it, if names of the channels for which information is required be specified.

The Ponneri channel.

259 *Q.*—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage in the powers of shifting of the head of the Ponneri channel three miles up the Coleroon river;

(*b*) the cost of the latest revised estimate;

(*c*) the amount expended up to date;

(*d*) the probable extent of additional lands that would be brought under cultivation by this work; and

(*e*) the estimated additional revenue therefrom?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The latest revised estimate sanctioned for improvements to the Ponneri channel amounts to Rs. 2,22,000 and fair progress has been made on the work. Information regarding actual expenditure incurred on the work up to date is not available but the expenditure to end of November 1923 amounts to Rs. 1,63,772.

(*d*) & (*e*) The work is intended chiefly to ensure a proper supply for the channel all the year round, and no large extension of cultivation has been contemplated.

Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR:—"With regard to the answer to question No. 259 (*a*) and (*b*), are we to understand, Sir, that the work thus far has been a failure?"

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Hardly."

The Kannambadi Arbitration affair.

260 *Q.*—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how the present position of the Kannambadi Arbitration affair stands;

(*b*) who were the officers deputed to consider the question of compromise of the dispute between the Madras and the Mysore Governments regarding the Dam;

(*c*) at what places they met;

(*d*) what were the decisions arrived at or the proposals advanced by them at each place of meetings;

(*e*) whether the Government have considered the necessity of obtaining the opinion of the leading ryots of the districts affected by the construction of the above Dam before any compromise is arrived at;

(*f*) if the answer to clause (*e*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a conference of the leading ryots of the districts concerned to consider the question of compromise and also to give publicity to the terms of compromise in all the leading newspapers of Madras and the districts concerned;